

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments. Claims 8-13 are in the application. Claim 8 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bosch* (FR Patent No. 1,391,410) in view of *Reid* (U.S. Patent No. 2,859,061). The Examiner states that *Bosch* discloses the combination valve, piston, cylinder and annular gap seal, except for the claimed groove in the cylinder, that *Reid* discloses this feature, and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify *Bosch* with the groove disclosed by *Reid* as a matter of mechanical experience and to reduce manufacturing costs.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As set forth in amended claim 8, Applicant's invention provides a groove having a peripheral lug that projects inwardly toward a groove axis on both sides, to form an undercut in the

groove. The groove prevents an egression of the seal out of the groove. Support for this amendment can be found in the drawings, where FIGs. 1c shows peripheral lug 32 projecting inwardly into the groove, to form a groove undercut. The term "axially" in the specification and claims means that the lugs project toward the groove axis, rather than parallel to the axis. The drawings clearly show that the lugs project toward the groove axis.

None of the cited references discloses or suggests a groove having an inwardly projecting peripheral lug on both sides.

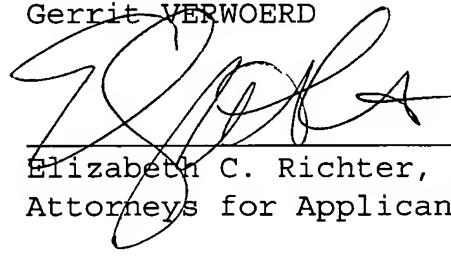
*Bosch* discloses a groove that is exactly rectangular. The Examiner points to the lugs of *Bosch* as being element 2 in contact with elements 3 and 4. Element 2 does not show any lug at all, but rather a flat bottom section having square parallel sides projecting therefrom. The lugs of the present invention project inwardly toward a groove axis. There are no such lugs in *Bosch*. The defects and deficiencies of the *Bosch* are nowhere remedied by *Reid*. *Reid* discloses grooves in a cylinder or piston, the groove being rectangular.

In summary, claim 8 has been amended. None of the cited references discloses or suggests Applicant's device as recited in

amended claim 8, that includes a groove having an inwardly projecting peripheral lug on both sides, that extends toward an axis of the groove. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 8 together with claims 9-13, which depend directly or indirectly thereon, are patentable over the cited references.

In summary, claim 8 has been amended. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the final action and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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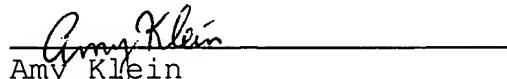
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Enclosure: RCE Transmittal, Check in the amount of \$810.00, Copy of Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time

ECR:cmm

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**Date of Deposit: January 30, 2008**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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